



MEMA REPORTS

MEMA REPORTS is a monthly newsletter produced by the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) to help keep the Public Safety Community of Massachusetts better informed about the day's Emergency Management issues. MEMA REPORTS also appears on the MEMA website: www.mass.gov/mema.

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BOSTON MARATHON EDITION



The 121st Boston Marathon, New England's largest sporting event, will be held on Monday, April 17, 2017. Over thirty thousand (30,000) registered runners will run the 26.2 mile course, which starts in Hopkinton and passes through Ashland, Framingham, Natick, Wellesley, Newton and Brookline before reaching the finish line on Boylston Street in Boston. This year, it is estimated that up to 1,000,000 spectators may line the streets to watch the marathon. The Boston Marathon also will be telecast live on local and national (cable) networks.

Race Information

Start times

Mobility Impaired	8:50 a.m.	15 participants (plus guides)
Wheelchairs & Duo's	9:17 a.m.	77 participants
Hand Cycles	9:22 a.m.	30 participants
Elite Women	9:32 a.m.	50 participants
Elite Men & Wave One	10:00 a.m.	7,500 participants
Wave Two	10:25 a.m.	7,500 participants
Wave Three	10:50 a.m.	7,500 participants
Wave Four	11:15 a.m.	7,500 participants

Road closures and reopening (estimated)

<u>Location</u>	<u>Close</u>	<u>Open</u>
Hopkinton	7:00 a.m.	1:30 p.m.
Ashland	7:15 a.m.	1:45 p.m.
Framingham	8:30 a.m.	2:15 p.m.
Natick	8:30 a.m.	2:45 p.m.
Wellesley	8:30 a.m.	3:15 p.m.
Newton	8:00 a.m.	4:15 p.m.
Brookline	9:15 a.m.	5:15 p.m.
Boston	Variable	6:30 p.m.

Charles D. Baker, Governor
Karen E. Polito, Lt. Governor

Daniel Bennett, Secretary of Public Safety & Security
Kurt N. Schwartz, MEMA Director

Media Interest

The BAA has issued over 1,000 media credentials to approximately 200 media outlets worldwide. The credentialed media will come from over 20 countries on six (6) continents (Europe, Asia, Africa, Australia, South America, and North America). All of the major U.S. television networks, radio networks, and news/sports publications will be covering the event. Additionally, there are a number of media outlets that have continent/worldwide coverage.



On April 5th, leadership from the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (EOPSS), the Boston Athletic Association (BAA), Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA), Massachusetts State Police (MSP), Boston Police Department, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) spoke at a press conference to discuss safety and security planning and race-day operations. The Federal Coordinator for the event, law enforcement leaders from the eight communities that host the race, and the National Guard also participated in event. At the press conference, officials explained the planning process, urged spectators to report suspicious activity, discussed the public safety's use of two unmanned aerial vehicles in Hopkinton, reviewed the spectator guidelines and encouraged the public to attend the race. See the [2017 Boston Marathon Spectator Guidelines](#).

Safety and Security Planning

The multi-jurisdictional public safety planning for this year's Boston Marathon began last November. Like last year, working groups were formed to focus on key functional components of the comprehensive public safety plan, including: Law Enforcement Tactical Operations (SWAT and Special Emergency Response Teams), Intelligence and Investigations, Explosive Ordinance Detection and Disposal (EOD) and Chemical Biological Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) Detection, Course Disruptions, Emergency Medical Services (EMS) and Coordination of /Mass Casualty Resources, Communications, and Training and Exercises. Over the last five months, hundreds of representatives from local, regional, state, federal, private sector and non-profit agencies and organizations have participated in planning meetings, training sessions, and exercises. The operational plans prepared by the working groups have been incorporated into the Multi-Jurisdictional Boston Marathon Public Safety Coordination Plan.

Pre-Marathon Training and Exercise Programs

For the fourth consecutive year, the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA), Massachusetts State Police (MSP), U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Center for Domestic Preparedness, New Mexico Tech, Texas A&M Engineering (TEEX), and Louisiana State University offered a comprehensive training program for public safety personnel supporting the Boston Marathon. This year's training programs, which are listed below, focused on observational techniques, civil unrest, bomb threats, and leadership during crises:

- Bomb Threat Management Planning Course
- Crisis Leadership & Decision Making
- Incident Command System (ICS) 400 – Command and General Staff Complex Incidents
- Site Protection and Document Screening
- Police and Fire Field Force Extraction (FFE) (focusing on managing protesters and civil disobedience)
- Behavioral Observation Suspicious Activity Reporting (BOSAR)

Over 150 public safety officials received training during this year's Marathon Training Series (7 separate classes), bringing the number of public safety officials who have participated in this series to over 2,000 in the past three years.



Marathon Public Safety Functional Exercise

On Tuesday, April 11, 2017, MEMA, in collaboration with the Boston Athletic Association (BAA), the 8 cities and towns that host the Marathon, and the dozens of local, regional, state and federal agencies that support public safety operations for the event, will conduct a large-scale functional exercise for the 2017 Boston Marathon. During the exercise, the Multi-Agency Coordination Center (MACC) at MEMA headquarters in Framingham will be fully activated with 220 liaisons from 75 local, state and federal agencies, private non-profit organizations and private sector companies. The MACC will replicate race-day operations, serving as the public safety coordination center for the Marathon. Local Emergency Operations Centers (EOCs) in the 8 cities and towns that host the Boston Marathon, and the BAA Race Operations Center, also will participate in the exercise.

The exercise will test the operational, coordination, communications, and decision making capabilities of the MACC, local EOCs and the Race Operations Center, and enable all stakeholders to assess their readiness for the Boston Marathon. During the exercise, participants will work through plausible scenarios that will test the comprehensive public safety plans for the Marathon.

Unmanned Aerial Vehicles to Support Public Safety Officials in Hopkinton



During the 2017 Marathon, two tethered Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs), provided by CyPhy Works Inc. of Danvers, will be flying in Hopkinton to provide live video coverage of Athlete's Village and the Start Line area. Flying at altitudes up to 400', these tethered UAV's will enhance public safety operations by providing live video to Hopkinton's Emergency Operations Center, the Multi-Agency Coordination Center, and the Race Operations Center. The UAV's, which are designed to fly for multiple operational periods and through all types of weather conditions, provide another tool for public safety monitoring and situational awareness during the event. The UAVs will be located off of the course route and not directly above spectators.

See Something Say Something Campaign

The Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (EOPSS) and MEMA, in partnership with the Massachusetts Chiefs of Police Association, continue to promote the statewide *See Something Say Something* public awareness campaign as a way to encourage the public to report suspicious behaviors to the police. *See Something Say Something* is a Department of Homeland Security (DHS) initiative that emphasizes the importance of reporting suspicious activity, including behaviors indicative of, or a precursor to terrorism. The initiative highlights the important role the public plays in maintaining a safe environment and preventing terrorism.



MEMA has distributed *See Something Say Something* signs, banners and posters to the cities and towns that host the Marathon. These signs and banners will be deployed along the Marathon route to increase public awareness and vigilance. Additionally, Clear Channel Outdoors has again volunteered to use its digital billboards in the greater Boston area to promote the *See Something Say Something* campaign in the days leading up to the Boston Marathon.

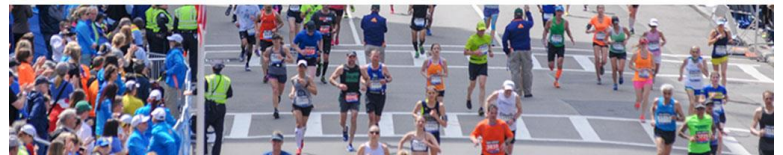
MEMA is also encouraging the use of a *See Something Say Something* public awareness video that was produced in advance of the 2014 Boston Marathon in partnership with the MA State Police and the Boston Police Department. The video highlights indicators of suspicious behavior/activity and encourages the public to immediately report suspicious activity to law enforcement. Agencies and organizations can access the video from MEMA's website: <http://www.mass.gov/seesomething>.

No-Drone Zone

Officials continue to request that drone enthusiasts not fly their drones near the race course or over the crowds of spectators along the course.



Leave Your Drone at Home



Race-Day Operations

On April 17th, emergency operations centers (EOCs) and command posts (CPs) will be operational in all eight cities and towns that host the Marathon. Additionally, a number of agencies will stand up tactical operations/coordination centers to direct their resources during the event. The Multi-Agency Coordination Center (MACC) will serve as the coordination hub for all of these EOCs, command posts and operations/ coordination centers to provide public safety coordination, situational awareness and resource support across the eight cities and towns that host the Marathon.

Multi-Agency Coordination Center

MEMA will host the Public Safety Multi-Agency Coordination Center (MACC) for the 121st running of the Boston Marathon. Starting at 5:00 a.m. on April 17th, over 220 individuals representing more than 75 local, regional, state, federal, private and volunteer agencies and organizations will staff the MACC. The MACC will remain operational until sometime after 6:00 p.m. when all multi-jurisdictional public safety operations have ended.

The MACC will work with local, state and federal emergency operations centers to maintain situational awareness and a common operating picture, facilitate multi-jurisdictional decision making, ensure effective communication and coordination between the BAA and public safety, meet all resource and mutual aid needs, and coordinate multi-jurisdictional public safety operations (including law enforcement tactical operations, intelligence and investigation activities, EOD/CBRN, and emergency medical services and mass casualty response support).

The MACC will operate under the Incident Command System (ICS) and will be organized within functional sections, branches, and units/groups. These groups will report to the MACC Manager. A Unified Coordination Group (UCG), comprised of executive level representatives from MEMA, EOPSS, FBI, State Police, Department of Fire Services, National Guard, Department of Public Health, Department of Homeland Security/Federal Coordinator, will guide and advise the MACC Manager.

Information Sharing, Situational Awareness, Common Operating Picture

Within the MACC's Planning Section, the Situation Unit will be responsible for ensuring situational awareness and maintaining a common operating picture on Race Day. The Situation Unit will use several tools to accomplish these tasks: Situational Awareness Statements and Urgent Matter Reports, WebEOC, ArcGIS Online, and periodic briefings.

Situational Awareness Statements and Urgent Matter Reports:

The Situation Unit will disseminate Situational Awareness Statements and Urgent Matter Reports on the status of the race and significant events. These text-based reports will be disseminated by email via a large email distribution list that has been created for this year's Marathon. The intent is to provide public safety partners across the course with frequent and timely information.

WebEOC:

WebEOC will function as the primary platform for tracking and sharing information for the 121st Boston Marathon. To ensure situational awareness across all jurisdictions and disciplines, emergency operations centers, command posts, and the MACC will post information about all significant events to WebEOC.

ArcGIS Online:

The GIS Unit within the Planning Section of the MACC will support and facilitate planning and decision-making through the development of mapping products and services that will be available through ArcGIS Online. Mapping products have been developed which utilize pre-populated geospatial information and live data feeds, as well as new data sets as needed for incident operations. Graphic products will include situation maps, briefing maps, and live, interactive web mapping. The GIS Unit is also able to produce ad hoc mapping products to support EOC's and command personnel as needed.

Through ArcGIS online, emergency operations centers, command posts, and mobile users will have access to numerous static layers (maps showing static Marathon related information) and layers displaying the following real-time information:

- Significant incidents and events that are entered into WebEOC will be mapped in real-time to ArcGIS Online. By viewing ArcGIS Online, users will see incidents and events as icons on a map. By moving the cursor over the icon, the user will have access to the information about the incident that has been entered into WebEOC;
- The locations of the vehicles escorting the lead male runner, lead female runner and lead wheelchair participant, and the locations of the trail vehicle and clean-up convoy, will be shown in real-time on a map on ArcGIS online;
- The density of runners crossing the timing mats every 5 kilometers along the course will be displayed on a map in ArcGIS Online;
- The locations of staged or deployed ambulance strike teams;
- The locations of staged or deployed groups of emergency buses.

Periodic Briefings:

In advance of, and again on the morning of April 17th, the MACC will publish a schedule of briefings. Briefings will be conducted for all personnel assigned to the MACC. All emergency operations centers, command posts, and other command/coordination centers will be invited to participate in all MACC briefings via a dedicated conference call bridge.

Public Warnings and Emergency Notifications

The MACC will have three primary methods to communicate emergency information to the public on April 17th: Emergency Alert System (EAS), Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA), and Massachusetts Alerts (MEMA's free Public Alerting App). During the Marathon, public warnings and emergency notifications may be issued because of severe weather, fire, hazardous materials incidents, or any situation that poses a threat to life, property, and safety. In addition, MEMA will coordinate with the BAA and the host cities and towns to utilize other alerting systems to disseminate emergency information to the public. MEMA will also utilize the Joint Information Center (JIC), including its Social Media Unit, to disseminate information via traditional media, websites, and social media platforms.

- **Emergency Alert System (EAS):** MEMA is authorized to activate the EAS, a national warning system for television and radio broadcasts to communicate with the public during emergencies.
- **Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA):** WEA is a component of EAS. MEMA is authorized to push emergency messages to mobile/wireless carriers. WEA-enabled phones have the ability to receive these free emergency alerts. The emergency message will automatically appear on the phone accompanied by a special tone and vibration. For more information, please visit <http://www.mass.gov/eopss/agencies/mema/be-prepared/be-informed/>.

- **Massachusetts Alerts:** is a communication tool used by MEMA to disseminate critical information to smartphones. [Massachusetts Alerts](#) is powered by a free app that is available for Android and iPhones. This state-of-the-art tool significantly enhances MEMA's ability to communicate with the public during emergencies. In a matter of minutes, MEMA has the ability to highlight an area on a map and then push messages, images, files, and audio messages to Smartphones that have the app and are located within that area. During the Boston Marathon, MEMA will use *Massachusetts Alerts* to share important public safety and emergency information about severe weather, course disruptions, and other emergency situations with runners and spectators. To learn more about *Massachusetts Alerts*, and for information on how to download the free app onto your smartphone, visit: www.mass.gov/mema/mobileapp.



Joint Information Center

During the Boston Marathon, the MACC will host a Joint Information Center (JIC) which will include on-site and virtual components. The on-site component of the JIC will be located within the MACC, while the virtual JIC will use email, conference calls and WebEOC to coordinate the work of PIOs of local, regional, state and federal agencies and organizations supporting public safety operations during the Boston Marathon. During the Boston Marathon, the JIC can be reached at 508-820-2002.

The media will be provided opportunities for escorted tours of the MACC. JIC staff will provide periodic briefings for the media, as necessary, in the tent area, including updates on weather, medical treatment numbers, road closings/openings, etc. If any incident occurs, more formal briefings will be held.

As part of the JIC, the MACC will also host an on-site Social Media Unit comprised of representatives from a number of agencies and organizations. The unit will provide information to the public (and media) through Twitter and other applicable social media platforms and will coordinate with social media contacts from other agencies to ensure coordinated and consistent public safety messaging. A Boston Marathon Twitter List has been set up. It is managed by MEMA, but accessible to all. <https://twitter.com/MassEMA/lists/boston-marathon>.

Boston Athletic Association Race Operations Center

The Boston Athletic Association Race Operations Center will again operate at a location in the immediate area of the finish line in Boston and provide direction and control to BAA staff, volunteers, and contractors supporting the Marathon. The operations center will be activated for the duration of the Marathon, and serve as the central logistics hub for resources to support Marathon race operations, including medical tents and transportation. The MACC and the BAA Race Operations Center will be in direct communication with each other throughout race day. A BAA liaison will be in the MACC, and MEMA will have a liaison in the BAA Race Operations Center.

Public Safety Plans: MACC Coordination Plan

The MACC Coordination Plan is a comprehensive plan that details the organizational structure and functions of the MACC, and outlines the roles and responsibilities of the agencies and organizations supporting the MACC.

The MACC Coordination Plan details how the MACC will maintain a common operating picture, manage resource requests and support the eight host cities and towns, coordinate with the BAA's Race Operations Center, and coordinate multi-jurisdictional public safety operations including the coordination and deployment of law enforcement tactical resources (Special Weapons and Tactics/Special Tactical Operations (SWAT/STOP) Teams, Special Emergency Response Teams, Explosive Ordinance Disposal (EOD) and Chemical, Biological, Radiological Nuclear (CBRN) Detection Teams. The MACC will also support and coordinate law enforcement intelligence and investigations operations, and EMS and mass casualty resources along the course.

The MACC Coordination Plan, and its attachments, also details the public safety interoperable communications plan; the operational plans of the 8 host cities and towns, key supporting regional, state and federal agencies, and the Boston Athletic Association; and the plan for managing course disruptions, including detours, suspensions and cancellations of the race.

The MACC Coordination Plan is available to public safety stakeholders through the WebEOC File Library. Printed copies of the plan also will be distributed prior to the event.

MEMA'S Mission Statement

MEMA is the state agency charged with ensuring the state is prepared to withstand, respond to, and recover from all types of emergencies and disasters, including natural hazards, accidents, deliberate attacks, and technological and infrastructure failures. MEMA is committed to an all hazards approach to emergency management. By building and sustaining effective partnerships with federal, state and local government agencies, and with the private sector - - individuals, families, non-profits, and businesses - - MEMA ensures the Commonwealth's ability to rapidly recover from large and small disasters by assessing and mitigating threats and hazards, enhancing preparedness, coordinating response operations, and strengthening our capacity to rebuild and recover.

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Do not forget to download the [Massachusetts Alerts](#) app!

